
Officials of Defense Ministry and managers of commercial companies to stand trial in Moscow



The Main Military Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee has finished investigation against former CEO of OAO Slavyanka (OJSC) and founder of ZAO Bezopasnost i Svyaz (CJSC) Alexander Yelkin, head of current repairs department of OAO Skavyanka Konstantin Lapshin, acting head of executive department of the Russian Ministry of Defense Nikolai Ryabykh, CEO of Bezopasnost i Zvyaz Andrey Lugansky and Yulia Rotanova who actually was an assistant to the CEO of ZAO Bezopasnost i Svyaz. Depending on the role of each one, they are charged with crimes under paragraphs "a" and "b" of part 4 of article 204, part 3 of article 174.1 and part 4 of article 159 of the RF Penal Code (commercial bribery and attempted commercial bribery committed by an organized group aggravated by extortion of the subject of bribery; money laundering; fraud committed by an organized group on a very large scale).

According to investigators, in 2010, the Russian Ministry of Defense concluded with Bezopasnost i

Zvyaz a state contract on maintenance and servicing of barracks and water supply network of military camps for 2011-2012. In order to execute the contract the company concluded contracts and subcontracts with commercial organizations, from whose CEOs managers demanded money threatening with troubles with paying the work under contracts. Over 15 months they transferred as a commercial bribe over 130 million rubels, which was cashed and stolen by the members of the criminal group.

In addition, while Bezopasnost i Zvyaz executed another state contract on maintenance of facilities of The Ministry of Defense, 83 million rubles was stolen under fictitious acceptance certificates.

During the preliminary investigation, a representative of the Defense Ministry filed a civil action to exact damages for damage done to the state. To cover it, Yelkin's property worth over 270 million rubles was arrested, as well as over 750 million rubles confiscated during the preliminary investigation.

All members of the organized group are in custody, except for Yulia Rotanova, who was released on recognizance due to health problems.

During the preliminary probe the investigators revealed a system of extortion built during the execution of multi-billion state contracts and embracing most of the Russian Federation. All the cases of criminal activity were revealed during the probe in close cooperation with military counter intelligence bodies.

It took the investigators 11 months since the case was opened to solve the all the crimes. After that it took 5 accused and 10 lawyers 21 months to read all 439 volumes of criminal records.

After the Main Military Prosecutor's Office approved the indictment, which had 9.5 thousand pages, the criminal case has been sent to Tver District Court of the city of Moscow to be tried on the merits.

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